



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/662,303

09/16/2003

Noriaki Ato

8038-1042

1775

466

7590

12/27/2004

YOUNG & THOMPSON  
745 SOUTH 23RD STREET  
2ND FLOOR  
ARLINGTON, VA 22202

EXAMINER

NEGRON, ISMAEL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2875

DATE MAILED: 12/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/662,303

Applicant(s)

ATO, NORIAKI

Examiner

Ismael Negron

Art Unit

2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 September 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Title*

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: **Backlight Unit including Reflection Member Receiving Chassis.**

### *Abstract*

Applicant is reminded of the proper content of an abstract of the disclosure.

A patent abstract is a concise statement of the technical disclosure of the patent and should include that which is new in the art to which the invention pertains. If the patent is of a basic nature, the entire technical disclosure may be new in the art, and the abstract should be directed to the entire disclosure. If the patent is in the nature of an improvement in an old apparatus, process, product, or composition, the abstract should include the technical disclosure of the improvement. In certain patents, particularly those for compounds and compositions, wherein the process for making and/or the use thereof are not obvious, the abstract should set forth a process for making and/or use thereof. If the new technical disclosure involves modifications or alternatives, the abstract should mention by way of example the preferred modification or alternative.

The abstract should not refer to purported merits or speculative applications of the invention and should not compare the invention with the prior art.

Where applicable, the abstract should include the following:

Art Unit: 2875

- (1) if a machine or apparatus, its organization and operation;
- (2) if an article, its method of making;
- (3) if a chemical compound, its identity and use;
- (4) if a mixture, its ingredients;
- (5) if a process, the steps.

Extensive mechanical and design details of apparatus should not be given.

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it inaccurately describes the claimed invention, and it refers to purported merits or speculative applications of the invention. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

The Examiner suggests amending lines 9-11 of the abstract 9as filed) to read:  
"between the chassis and the reflector lamp holder to restrict the lateral movement of the reflector, ~~whereby a defect of the front edge of the reflector appearing in the display area can be prevented.~~"

### ***Drawings***

3. Figures 8, 9A and 9B should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g).

4. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "43a" has been used to designate both "*reflector*" (page 2, line 8) and "*reflection sheet*" (page 2, line 12).

In addition, note the following:

- reference character "14a", used to designate "*backlight chassis*" (page 2, line 5) and "*chassis body*" (page 3, line 1);

Art Unit: 2875

- reference character "**14b**", used to designate "*backlight chassis*" (page 2, line 5) and "*chassis case*" (page 3, line 3); and
- reference character "**12**", used to designate "*tubular lamp*" (page 2, line 1), "*backlight unit source*" (page 3, line 18) and "*cold-cathode tube*" (page 8, line 15).

5. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: **14** (see page 2, line 25).

6. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "**10**" has been used to designate different parts in different embodiments. See Figures 1 and 8.

In addition, note the following:

- reference character "**11**" in Figures 1 and 8;
- reference character "**14**" in Figures 2 and 8;
- reference character "**14a**" in Figures 2 and 8;
- reference character "**14b**" in Figures 1 and 8;
- reference character "**20**" in Figures 2 and 8; and
- reference character "**30**" in Figures 2 and 8.

7. The applicant is advised that the reference characters must be properly applied, with no single reference character being used for two different parts or for a given part and a modification of such part. See MPEP §608.01(g). Correction is required.

Applicant is further advised that this action only exemplifies the objections to the drawings, applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting all the occurrences of the cited, or any other errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

8. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

9. Claims 1-11 are allowed.

10. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant teaches a backlight unit including an optical guide plate, a tubular lamp, a reflector member and a chassis. The reflection member encircles the lamp and includes a reflection sheet disposed on a backside of the guide plate. A lamp holder is located at a corner of the chassis, with a portion of the reflection member being

Art Unit: 2875

sandwiched between the chassis and the lamp holder for restricting lateral movement of the reflection member.

No prior art was found teaching individually, or suggesting in combination, all of the features of the applicants' invention, specifically a portion of a reflection member being sandwiched between a chassis and a lamp holder for restricting lateral movement of the reflection member, in combination with the claimed backlight unit structure.

11. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### ***Relevant Prior Art***

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

**Eberhardt** (U.S. Pat. 4,229,783), **Ohe** (U.S. Pat. 4,729,068), **Matsumoto** (U.S. Pat. 5,489,999), **Ochiai** (U.S. Pat. 5,703,667), **Ishikawa** (U.S. Pat. 5,951,138) and **Masaki** (U.S. Pat. 6,139,162) disclose backlight units including an optical guide plate, a tubular lamp, a reflector member and a chassis. However, the cited references failed to disclosed individually, or suggest in combination, the claimed backlight unit structure.

***Ex parte Quayle***

13. This application is in condition for allowance except for the formal matters detailed in Sections 1-8 of the instant Office Action.

14. Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

**Conclusion**

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ismael Negron whose telephone number is (571) 272-2376. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra L. O'Shea, can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The facsimile machine number for the Art Group is (703) 872-9306.

16. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications maybe obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For



Art Unit: 2875

more information about the PAIR system, go to <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) toll-free at 866-217-9197.



**JOHN ANTHONY WARD**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**



Inr

December 17, 2004